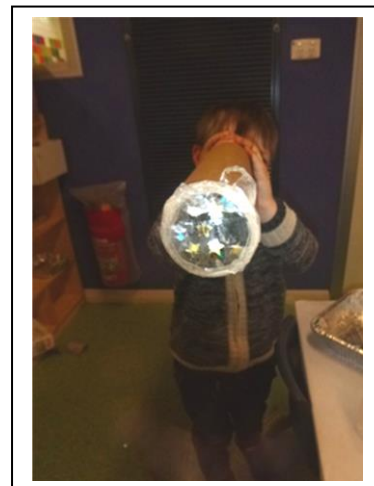


Learning About Our World

(Tuesday/Wednesday group)

Interests and queries lead us to learn quite a bit about our world at kindergarten during term three, including topics such as space, volcanoes and earth. The question “If the earth is always spinning, why don’t we fall off?” led us to share what we know about space and earth in the hope to find an answer. Our knowledge sharing highlighted plenty of knowledge and also turned into respectful disputes on topics based on the following queries:

- If the sun is made out of gas, why doesn’t it just fall out of the sky?
- Which is hottest- the sun, lava or lightning?
- How far under the earth is lava?



We also all worked towards creating our own kindergarten rocket to explore what space travel might be like through play (and the timing of this was perfect with the 50th anniversary of the moon landing). To make the rocket some were involved in painting cardboard to look like a space ship, others made control panels (with 100’s of buttons), jet packs, telescopes or drones for exploring space.

Later in the term, we also had a visit from SciWorld with their Star Dome. This is when we learnt a bit about the planets, acted out the planets moving around the sun and, whilst being surrounded by stars, heard some amazing stories about some stars we could see in our night skies at home. We also learnt that lightning is hotter than the sun or lava and lava is very, very far under the ground.

On the last day of term, our sandpit was transformed into a ‘lava land’ filled with about five giant volcanoes in which we set off lava explosions made with vinegar, bicarb soda and food colour.



Hopefully our sharing of knowledge and curiosity, as well as play based learning has not only been lots of fun and widened our understanding about our world, but has also encouraged us to see ourselves as life-long learners.

by Jenifer Maddern